

## E 'Specially' DECS

A weekly email update from the Division of Exceptional Children Services to Directors of Special Education on current issues, information and events.

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### Question of the Week:

How long should a district keep KCMP (Kentucky Continuous Monitoring Process) documentation, i.e., information gathered by LEAs specifically for answering the KCMP self-assessment?

Answer (In consultation with Roger Lacy, DECS consultant)

Currently, no time limit is established in the law. The amount of time that Mr. Lacy recommends is five years. However, the minimum amount of time that the information should be maintained by the district is two years from the date of the submission of the KCMP to DECS. Two years ensures that, if a district is chosen for an on-site verification visit by KDE, the district will be able to provide KDE with the underlying documentation upon which its KCMP was written. However, in the event a district is chosen for an on-site visit or a special education mentor, maintaining the data for a minimum of three years or more is essential, since KDE may choose to visit the district the following year(s) after the initial visit.

KDE and DECS are charged by the IDEA with general supervisory authority in the area of special education, which includes monitoring of local districts by KDE. If the Federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) establishes standards in this area, DECS may need to reassess its advice.

However, DECS will advise districts when and if the OSEP standards for monitoring change.

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The Question of the Week will be an on-going feature of E 'Specially' DECS.

If you have a special education question that you believe would be of general interest to other Directors of Special Education, email your suggestion to Sammie Lambert at [slambert@kde.state.ky.us](mailto:slambert@kde.state.ky.us)

### Kudos for Kentucky's Preschool Programs

In Kentucky, no teachers reported expelling any pre-kindergartener over the past year. Kentucky's pre-K expulsion rate ranks 40th among the 40 states that fund pre-kindergarten, with a rate of 0 expulsions per 1,000 enrolled.

Nationally, 10.4% of teachers reported expelling at least one pre-kindergartener during the past year, for an expulsion rate of 6.7 per 1,000.

Kentucky's pre-kindergarten expulsion rate is lower than its K-12 expulsion rate of 1.2 per 1,000. Kentucky is one of only three states

(with South Carolina and Louisiana) where the preK expulsion rate is less than that for K-12 students.

The Kentucky Preschool Program began in 1990 and currently enrolls more than 18,000 children. Classrooms are predominately located in school settings; although 12% of classrooms are located in non-school based Head Starts and other community-based child care programs.

From the web site of the Foundation for Child Development:  
<http://www.fcd-us.org/news/embargoed/>

Contact Information for E 'Specially' DECS

- Sammie Lambert at [slambert@kde.state.ky.us](mailto:slambert@kde.state.ky.us) for information on newsletter content.

- Chris Thacker at 502 564-4738 for technical difficulties in receiving E 'Specially' DECS.

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Forwarding of E 'Specially' DECS is not only allowed, it is encouraged. Please send to staff in your district who may be able to benefit from this information.